

On December 30 in Providence the

Treasurer—Thomas L. Wright.
 Collector—Abner Chandler.
 Secretary—William F. Caswell.
 Chaplain—George W. Gardner.
 Galle—Charles T. Knowles.
 Warden—Edwin J. Knowles.

The dark interval, for a few minutes I was so dark that for a few minutes I could see nothing but the indistinct outline of a young woman with a very white face. She had uttered a sort of murmur in my works, but for some reason was strangely silent, and if I could trust my eyes seemed rather to be looking back and over her shoulder than into the face of her advancing guest. This was odd, but before I could quite satisfy myself as to the cause of her abstraction she suddenly bethought herself, and throwing open the door of an adjoining room she let in a stream of light by which we were enabled to see each other and exchange the greetings suitable to the occasion.

Office, Rotterdam, my mother's old

"You—you must not think the people of your welcome," she said, with a half proud, half apologetic look around her, which I must say the largeness and ably character of the room we were in fully justified. "We have not been very well off since father died, and mother"—again that look, this time one of unmistakable fear, but she soon checked it and smiled again, though without any show of piquancy—"and mother left us. Had you given us a chance we would have written you that our home would not offer many inducements to you after your own, but you have come unexpectedly and"—

"There, there," I put in, for I saw that her embarrassment would soon get the better of her, "do not speak of it. I did not come to enjoy your home, but to see you. Are you the eldest, my dear, and where is your sister and brother?"

"I am not the oldest," she said. "I am Lucretia. My sister"—here her head stole irresistibly back to its old position of listening—"will—will come soon. My brother is not in the house."

any sunny cottage. We were in for bonny times," said she, with a gleam of merriment, and a sense of the solemnness of this old house soon faded.

"And of this road," I ventured, "is the darkest and most picturesque entered. I thought it was a wilderness."

She for a moment forgot her anxiety beyond. She looked at me intently, and a subtle shadow passed slowly over her features.

"It is a solitary one," she said.

"Quite solitary. I do not know of any one who has ever struck you as dismal. Have you—has any one ever told you that it was not considered as being safe?"

"Safe!" I repeated, with a smile—give me—an expression of merriment in my eyes.

"Yes, it has not the best. Strange things have happened here have been thought to, which had. I thought that some have been kind enough to tell the station."

"There was a gentle sort of

I proceeded, seeing I must keep up the conversation if we were not to sit in total silence, "till I happened to hear the name of Althea mentioned the other day. Then my whole early friendship with your mother recurred to me, and I started up—as I always do when I come to any decision, my dear—and said that tel gram, which I hope I have not followed by an unwelcome presence."

"Oh, no," she repeated, but this time with some feeling, "no need friends, and if you will overlook our shortcomings— But you have not taken off your hat. What will Loreen say to me?"

And with a sudden nervous action as marked as her late listlessness she jumped up and began busying herself over me, untying my bonnet and laying aside my bundles, with up to this moment I had held in my hands.

"I—I am so absentminded," she murmured. "I—I did not think—I hope you will excuse me. Loreen would have given you a much better welcome."

"Then Loreen should have been—"

—we can visit you here. Shall I do it? Shall my face must have a grain look, for her words point and a flash, the fire on her cheek, rose up to giving her an appearance of stress.

"Oh, I wish Loreen were not at all happy in my company," she said, with a deprecating lip that was one of charms. "Oh, there she will go," said she, and without appearance of realizing that anything out of place she the room almost before she entered it.

But not before there came a look of unusual significance.

CHAPTER
LOREEN, LUCETTA AND
HAD I not caught them
have received an impression
Knollys that would in
counteracted that made
and thus rest

here." I said, with a smile. I could not restrain that slight rebuke, yet I liked the girl, notwithstanding everything I had heard, and her own odd and unaccountable behavior there was a sweetness in her face when she chose to smile that proved an irresistible attraction. And then, for all her absentmindedness and abstracted ways, she was such a lady! Not even the plainest of dresses and the total absence of anything like adornment to her person could hide that fact. It was in every line of her thin but graceful form and in every inflection of her musical but constrained voice. Had I seen her in my own parlor instead of between these bare and moldering walls I should have said the same thing. She is such a true

"Satisfied of the most pitiful nature of their poverty and determined to submit to 'privations if necessary rather than depart before I had penetrated the mystery of this remarkable household, I hastened to say, with what I hope was sincere good feeling, that my room would be acceptable to me, and still expecting to be taken upstairs I began to gather up my wraps, but Miss Knollys again surprised me by saying that my room was not yet ready; that they had not been able to complete all their arrangements, and would I make myself at home where I was till evening."

As this was asking a good deal of a woman of my years, fresh from a railroad journey and with natural habits of great neatness and order, I felt somewhat disconcerted, but huffing it for the reasons before given I had down my

any of his fruit."

"Oh, I didn't ask! I just stood at the fence and looked over. Mr. Truoin and I are good friends. Why shouldn't I eat his fruit?"

The look she gave him might have moved a stone, but he seemed perfectly impervious to it. Seeing him so stolid, her head drooped and she did not answer a word. Yet somehow I felt that even while she was so manifestly a prey to very natural mortification, her attention was not wholly given over to this one emotion. There was something over and beyond all this that she feared, hoping to relieve her and lighten the situation, I forced myself to smile at the young man as I said:

"Why don't you raise melons your self? I think I should be anxious to raise everything possible if I had so good a second as you possess."

way which I hoped would establish really friendly relations between us and make it possible for her to tell me later, if not at the present moment, what it was that weighed so heavily upon this household that no one could enter into it without feeling the shadow of the secret terror that enveloped it.

But Miss Knollys, while more attentive to my remarks than her sister had been, showed still by certain unmistakable signs that her heart and interest were anywhere but in that room, and while I could not regard this as throwing any discredit upon my powers of pleasing—which have rarely failed when I have exerted them to their utmost—I still could not but experience the dampening effect of her manner. I went on chattering, but in a desultory way, noting all that was odd in her un-

than her appearance had given taken to her. "Oh," he shouted, while she shrank with a horrified look. "Lucetta de- like that. She thinks a man ought to work, plow, harrow, dig, make that of himself to keep up a place that's good anyway. But I tell her that what is something she'll never get out of. I was born a gentleman, and a gentleman I will live if the piece turns down over our heads. Perhaps it will be the best way to get rid of it. Then I could go live with Mr. Troilus, have melons from early Mr. Troilus at night." And again his course in- ruged out.

"This, or was it his words, seemed rouse her as nothing had done before. Thrusting out her hand, she laid her mouth with a look of almost fierce appeal at the woman who was stand-

observed heavily than one
her-while she
rors they
on"—she
ed in eager-
ged at a
—"if you
mind such
I procure
where you
where we
is well as
call!"—
ed a very
ed at that

meant me to the dining room.
"Ah," I murmured, thinking that
possibly Lorenz had found it necessary
to assist in the preparation of the meal,
"and your brother?"
It was the first time he had been
mentioned by any of us. I had shrunk
from the venture out of a motive of
pure compassion, I think, and they had
not seen fit to introduce his name into
any of our conversations. Consequently
I waited her response with some anx-
iety, having a secret premonition that
in some way he was at the bottom of
my strange reception.
Her hasty answer, given, however,
without any increase of embarrassment,
somewhat dispelled this supposition.
"Oh, he will be in presently," said
she. "William is never very punctual."
"When he did come in I could not

CHAPTER VI.
A SUMMER EVENING.
The evening, like the afternoon
spent in the sitting room with
the sisters, one event alone is
recurring. I had become accus-
tomed of a conversation that always
guished, no matter on what
was started, and, observing an op-
portunity in one corner—I once played
—I sat down before it and im-
pressed a few chords from the
keys. Instantly Lucretia—it was
she who was with me then—leaned
my side with a look of horror
face.
"Don't do that," she cried,
her hand on mine to stop me. T
ing my look of dignified astoni
she added with an appealing so
her pardon, but every son
with you tonight."

the more
and Lucetta
her bearing,
approach-
ness in which
were such as
but me at the
she was the
it took! With
doubled to see
placed nature
it she put on
of that same
had been so
manifested by

vertent expression he might utter in
his efforts to be agreeable. She even
kept her left hand disengaged with the
evident intention of stretching it out in
his direction if in his lumbering stu-
pidity he should utter a sentence calcu-
lated to open my eyes to what she so
passionately desired to have kept secret.
I saw it all as plainly as I saw his
heavy indifference to her anxiety, and
knowing from experience that it is in
just such stolid souls as these that the
worst passions are often hidden I took
the advantage of my years and forced a
conversation in which I hoped some
flash of his real self would appear de-
spite her wary watch upon him.

Not liking to renew the topic of the
lane itself, I asked with a very natural
show of interest how near was their

room when you came in? It was de-
termined to know the reason of this
peculiar conduct. "Have you no
guests in the house?"

The reply came with unusual
hence. "No," she cried, "but
should you think so? There are
here but the family." And
away with a dignity she more
herited from her father, for her
roughs had every other
quality but that. "You are
tired," she said. "If you
will go now to your room."

I rose at once, glad of the
seeing the upper portion of
She took my wraps on her
passed immediately into the
we did so I heard voices,
shrill and full of distress, be-

The truth which nobody else
knew that she felt the situation keen-
ly.

"I am sure," she said, "that it is a
matter of great regret to me to be obliged
to offer you so mean a lodging, but all
our other rooms are—out of order,"
she explained firmly, "and I cannot do
otherwise tonight."

"But isn't there some spot nearer
you?" I urged. "A couch in the same
room with you would be more accept-
able to me than this distant room."

"I—I hope you are not timid," she
began, but I hastened to disabuse her
mind of this at once.

"I am not afraid," said I, "of any
earthly thing but dogs, but I do not like
solitude. I came here for companion-
ship, my dear. I really would like to
sleep with one of you."

This, to see how she would meet such

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NEWPORT
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The charge for calls for baggage on
Sundays between the hours of 7 a. m.

She heaved a sigh, and then, seeing my eye traveling slowly over the gray discolored walls, which were not relieved by so much as a solitary print, she pointed to a bell rope near the head of the bed and considerably remarked:

"If you wish anything in the night or are disturbed in any way, pull that. It communicates with my room, and I will be only too glad to come to you."

I glanced up at the rope, ran my eye along the wire communicating with it and saw that it was broken shred off before it even entered into the wall.

"I am afraid you will not hear me," I answered, pointing to the break.

She flushed a deep scarlet, and for a moment looked as embarrassed as ever her sister had done.

"I did not know," she murmured. "The house is so old, everything is worn or less out of repair." And she

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The new shoe for women

nor need you have the least concern for yourself or us, whether the night passes in quiet or whether it is broken by unaccountable sounds. They will have no reference to anything in which you are interested."

"Ah, ha," thought I, "won't they! You give me credit for much indifference, my dear." But I said nothing. I lay on a few soothing pillows, which I made purposefully short, seeing that every moment I kept her there was just so much torture. Then I went back to my room and carefully closed the door. My first night in this dismal and strangely ordered house had opened anything but propitiously.

—UED.]

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 the reservoir being suspended at the top
 of the lamp with a feed pipe, which
 extends in close proximity to the flame
 to transform the oil into gas.
 Memorial to Cardman.
 Cardman, "The morning voice of Eng-
 land," the monk who first sang of the
 creation of the world's growth, is to
 have a memorial in the form of a
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 heights on the chalk cliffs of Whitby.
 The inscription will be lines from his
 poem in Runic letters with a trans-
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 The necessity of preparing tobacco
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ALL PERSONS, desirous of having water introduced into their residences or places of business, should make application at the office, Marlboro' street, near Thames.

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These tiny Capsules are superior
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Gubees or Injections and
CURE IN 48 HOURS
the same diseases without
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"It's on me. What'll you drink?"
"I've quit drinking, too."—Chicago
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Hunt, has just received a large quantity of the Royal Baking Powder, which he is offering at a very low price. The powder is of the highest quality and is made from pure ingredients. It is the best for all baking purposes and is sold in all the stores.

been been for some months. His right with him the side of a large mirror, which he killed, also some gold dust which he mixed.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE NATIONAL BANK, at Newport, R.I., will be held at the bank building, on Tuesday, January 10, 1899, at 10 o'clock a.m. The business to be transacted is as follows:

Sign of the GREAT WHITE BEAR.



THE F. P. TEBBETTS CO.

FINE FURS FOR CHRISTMAS.

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- BLUE FOX SETS—STONE MARTEN SETS—HUDSON BAY SABLE SETS—BLACK MARTEN SETS—In every variety from the cheap to the best.

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HARPER'S WEEKLY

during 1899 will contain complete, concise, and accurate accounts of all noteworthy and interesting occurrences as they transpire in our own and in foreign lands. Eminent men of letters and distinguished artists will contribute to its columns, and its readers will have the most impartial and the best

PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE YEAR

During 1899 HARPER'S WEEKLY will be especially rich in fiction, containing serial stories from the pen of H. G. Wells, author of "The War of the Worlds"; "The Conspirators," by Robert W. Chambers; a romance of De Soto's last voyage, by E. S. Van Zile, and short fiction by authors of international fame. Articles by special correspondents in our new possessions—Manila, Honolulu, Cuba, and Puerto Rico, with other interesting matter, will fill the space left by contemporary events.

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National Bank of Rhode Island

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF RHODE ISLAND, at Newport, R.I., will be held at the bank building, on Tuesday, January 10, 1899, at 10 o'clock a.m. The business to be transacted is as follows:

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF RHODE ISLAND, at Newport, R.I., at the close of business, Dec. 1, 1898.

RESOURCES. DOLLARS. Loans and discounts, \$175,000.00. Overdrafts, secured and unsecured, 1,742.81. U.S. bonds to secure circulation, 100,000.00. U.S. bonds on hand, 50,000.00. Stocks, securities, etc., 10,000.00. Banking house, furniture and fixtures, 10,000.00. Other real estate and mortgages, 10,000.00. Total, \$356,742.81.

LIABILITIES. DOLLARS. Capital stock paid in, \$100,000.00. Surplus fund, 10,000.00. Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid, 10,000.00. National bank notes outstanding, 10,000.00. Due to other national banks, 10,000.00. Dividends unpaid, 10,000.00. Individual deposits subject to check, 10,000.00. Cashier's checks outstanding, 10,000.00. Total, \$356,742.81.

THE CITY OF NEWPORT.

An Ordinance authorizing the Newport Illuminating Company to construct and maintain underground conduits for electric wires.

It is ordered by the City Council of the City of Newport, that the Newport Illuminating Company, its successors and assigns, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered under the terms of the ordinance passed by the City Council on the 10th day of December, 1898, to construct and maintain underground conduits for electric wires, in the streets, squares, lanes, and alleys, and in other places, in the City of Newport, in accordance with the plan and specifications attached to the ordinance, and to be in force from the date of the passage of the ordinance until the same be amended or repealed.

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New Advertisements.

Proposals for School Furniture, etc., for the Coggeshall School House, Van Zandt Avenue.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received by the City of Newport, at the City Clerk's Office, until Wednesday, December 21, 1898, at 10 o'clock a.m., for supplying school furniture for the Coggeshall School House, Van Zandt Avenue. The proposals must be accompanied by a check for the sum of \$100.00, payable to the order of the City of Newport, and must be signed by the proposer. The proposals must be in accordance with the specifications attached to the advertisement. The City Clerk's Office is at the City Hall, 100 State Street.

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DEADLY GAS FUNES

One Person and Three Serious Sick—others of Four Others.

Boston, Dec. 15.—A sad case of asphyxiation by coal gas occurred in the Dorchester district yesterday afternoon, resulting in the death of James O'Neil, 25, and the prostration of four other members of the family, who were only saved by hours of hard work by a physician. About 3:30 O'Neil came home and found his wife and three daughters suffering from the cold. Going into the basement, he started a fire in the furnace, partially filling it with rubbish, upon which he piled a quantity of coal. He then went upstairs. After supper his daughter Katie, aged 15, complained of being ill, and about 7:30 she fainted. Police officers, on being called, found Katie unconscious on the floor and all the other ill. He at once gave his attention to the girl, and while working over her, O'Neil, who had been sitting in a chair near by, fell backwards to the floor. The doctor, who was called, found that in spite of all he could do the man died in a few minutes. Katie was partially revived, and she, together with her mother and sisters, James, 12, and Sarah, 9, were taken to the city hospital. They are all now said to be doing well and will probably fully recover.

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